



# Delaware

## Weekly Crop and Weather Report

DE-CW2405

SEPTEMBER 12, 2005

### Dry Weather Speeds Harvest

Extremely dry conditions caused corn harvest to proceed at an above average pace. Farmers had 7.0 **days suitable for field work** for the week ending September 11, 2004. Farmers were harvesting **corn** for **silage** at a fast pace. **Corn** for **grain** harvest increased 20 percent last week from 3 percent to 23 percent complete. Double crop **soybeans** were stressed by the late season dry conditions. Many **soybean** fields are turning color and a few are beginning to drop their leaves.

Vegetable and fruit harvest is nearing completion for, **snap beans**, **watermelons**, **tomatoes**, and **cantaloupes**. The dry days allowed farmers to make good progress on their third cutting of **other hay**. A few fields are ready for a fourth cutting of **other hay**. The fourth cutting of **Alfalfa hay** is progressing nicely with 49 percent complete.

**Pastures** are rated 3 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 67 percent fair and 17 percent good. **Hay supplies** were 26 percent short, 57 percent adequate, and 17 percent surplus.

#### DELAWARE’S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2005 (PERCENT)

| Item                                | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | Average 2000-2004 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| Harvesting Progress:                |           |           |           |                   |
| Apples                              | 40        | 34        | 29        | 38                |
| Cantaloupes                         | 93        | 86        | 92        | 95                |
| Cucumbers                           | 89        | 87        | 92        | 87                |
| Lima Beans                          | 75        | 55        | 86        | 39                |
| Potatoes                            | 89        | 77        | 97        | 92                |
| Snap Beans                          | 95        | 94        | 100       | 92                |
| Tomatoes                            | 96        | 86        | 88        | 91                |
| Watermelons                         | 96        | 84        | 92        | 93                |
| Corn for Grain                      | 23        | 3         | 28        | 12                |
| Corn for Silage                     | 92        | 61        | 58        | 53                |
| Crop Progress:                      |           |           |           |                   |
| Corn Dent                           | 98        | 91        | 98        | 85                |
| Corn Mature                         | 60        | 43        | 85        | 53                |
| Soybean Turning Color               | 37        | 13        | 10        | 14                |
| Soybean Dropping Leaves             | 22        | 5         | 1         | 3                 |
| Hay Harvested:                      |           |           |           |                   |
| Alfalfa Hay 4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting | 49        | 38        | 34        | 39                |
| Other Hay 3 <sup>rd</sup> Cutting   | 92        | 83        | 82        | 88                |

#### SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2005 (PERCENT)

| Condition         | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-------------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| Topsoil Moisture  | 48         | 50    | 2        | -       |
| Topsoil (2004)    | -          | 27    | 72       | 1       |
| Five Year Average | 2          | 18    | 72       | 8       |
| Subsoil Moisture  | 22         | 53    | 25       | -       |
| Subsoil (2004)    | 1          | 9     | 90       | -       |
| Five Year Average | 4          | 19    | 70       | 7       |

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For more information call: Delaware Agricultural Statistics Service, 2320 South DuPont Hwy., Dover DE 19901, 302-698-4537 (or 800-282-8685 in state)

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2005

|                                  | Precipitation         |                         |   | Temperatures |     |         |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------|-----|---------|-----------------------------|
| Weather Station                  | Total<br>this<br>week | Total<br>Since<br>Jan 1 | Departure<br>from Normal<br>Since Jan 1 | High         | Low | Average | Departure<br>from<br>Normal |
| <b>Maryland</b>                  |                       |                         |   |              |     |         |                             |
| Baltimore/Washington Airport     | 0.00                  | 33.41                   | 4.45                                    | 86           | 52  | 70      | -2                          |
| Easton                           | 0.00                  | 31.52                   | -0.03                                   | 84           | 55  | 70      | -3                          |
| Frederick                        | 0.00                  | 28.24                   | 0.58                                    | 85           | 51  | 69      | 3                           |
| Frostburg                        | 0.00                  | 27.72                   | -6.47                                   | 79           | 49  | 65      | 2                           |
| Hagerstown                       | 0.00                  | 21.61                   | -5.64                                   | 83           | 53  | 69      | -1                          |
| Mechanicsville                   | 0.00                  | 29.46                   | -2.65                                   | 82           | 53  | 67      | -4                          |
| Patuxent River                   | 0.00                  | 29.91                   | -0.11                                   | 85           | 57  | 72      | 2                           |
| Ocean City                       | 0.02                  | 31.26                   | -1.47                                   | 81           | 55  | 70      | -2                          |
| Salisbury                        | 0.01                  | 33.40                   | 0.49                                    | 87           | 49  | 67      | -5                          |
| Sharpsburg                       | 0.00                  | 25.55                   | -2.11                                   | 88           | 48  | 67      | 2                           |
| Washington, DC (Reagan National) | 0.00                  | 29.20                   | 1.85                                    | 86           | 60  | 74      | 0                           |
| <b>Delaware</b>                  |                       |                         |   |              |     |         |                             |
| Dover                            | 0.00                  | 35.25                   | 3.75                                    | 82           | 57  | 70      | -3                          |
| Georgetown                       | 0.03                  | 30.28                   | -1.65                                   | 87           | 54  | 70      | 1                           |
| Wilmington                       | 0.00                  | 25.64                   | -3.41                                   | 86           | 53  | 71      | 0                           |

Weather Data is provided by the Agricultural Weather Information Service, Auburn, Alabama and is considered preliminary.